

The challenges and opportunities of an ageing society

Teachers' notes

Lesson1: Britain's changing population age structure

Lesson 2 is intended to be a stand alone lesson focusing on the challenges and opportunities that Britain is facing with its changing population age structure.

Starter

The starter uses the 21st Century Challenges website 60 second guide to act as a recap and asks students to begin to think in terms of causes and consequences.

Main activity

The success of the main activity depends quite strongly on the briefing provided by the teacher. It is essential that the students get in to character so that the different opinions are expressed. You may want to divide the class into specific groups to meet their individual needs. The notes from lesson 2 fact sheet should provide sufficient information for the teacher to brief the class – you can choose the amount of information you want to pass on to your class, some groups will need more guidance on what to include and exclude than others.

Plenary

In order to ensure that the students leave the lesson with a good understanding of the links between an ageing population and housing, healthcare and pensions, the teacher will need to be aware of both the challenges and opportunities faced. It is best to avoid ending the lesson on a bias; ensuring that students are aware of both the positive and negative consequences of an ageing society. If your students work well verbally, you may prefer to end the lesson with students presenting their findings.